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AP® CollegeBoard

AP® Music Theory

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Free Response Question S1

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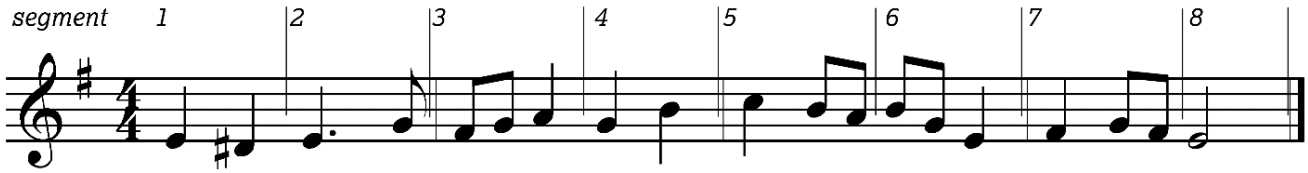
Sight Singing Question 1 — 9 points

General Instructions
Use EITHER the regular scoring guide OR an alternate scoring guide, whichever gives the higher score.



I. Regular Scoring Guide

A. Score 1 point for each segment (i.e., each half-measure) correct in pitch, rhythm, and tempo. **1 point each (max 8)**

B. If at least one segment is correct using **I.A.**, add 1 point for a complete response that has no hesitations or restarts (= overall flow; the "flow" point). **1 point**

C. Record any score of 4 or higher.

D. If the score is less than 4, try an alternate scoring guide.

II. Alternate Scoring Guides (Do not award the "flow" point in the alternate scoring guide.)

A. If a student sings many of the pitches correctly but is consistently inaccurate in rhythm, you may determine holistically to award up to 4 points for pitch. **Max 4**

OR

B. If a student is accurate or nearly accurate with respect to rhythm but is consistently inaccurate in pitches, you may determine holistically to award up to 2 points for rhythm. **Max 2**

III. Scores with Additional Meaning

1 This score may be given to a response that has two or more redeeming qualities (e.g., retention of the tonic pitch and singing the melody with a correct contour. Persistence alone is *not* a redeeming quality).

0 This score is used for a response that has no redeeming qualities (or only one) or a response that is off-topic or irrelevant.

NR This score (no response) is used for blank responses (including spoken AP number but no response).

IV. Scoring Notes

A. If a student restarts, score the last *complete* response, but do *not* award the "flow" point.

B. Score from the tonic established by the student. However, credit any exactly transposed segment approached by the correct interval. In other words, *any segment entered correctly (by the correct interval) is eligible for the point*.

C. The last note may be eligible for the point if the student returns to the original tonic, even if the preceding segments have been transposed, and the original tonic is not approached correctly.

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D. If the student changes tempo and continues in the new tempo, do not credit the segment where the change occurs, but credit the ensuing segments.

E. The last note must be held at least to the attack of the final eighth note of measure four for that segment to receive credit.

F. Ignore any use (correct or incorrect) of syllables, letter names, or numbers, as well as expletives, giggles, and the like.

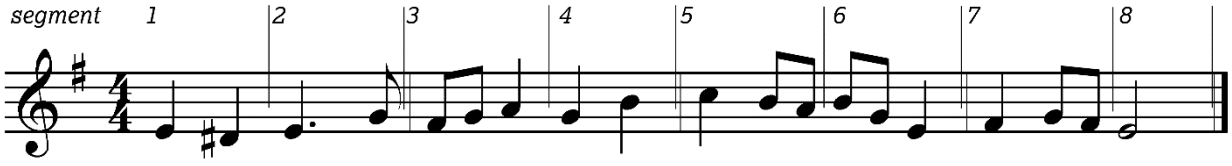
G. If you try both regular and alternate guides, record the higher of the scores.

H. Scores from one guide may *not* be combined with those of another.

I. Listen beyond the end of the performance to ensure that the student made no additional response.

Total for question S1 (Regular Scoring Guide) 9 points

Record points for correct segments and flow in the boxes below. Use either the regular scoring guide or one of the alternate scoring guides.



									Flow point
Regular Scoring									
Alternate: Pitch									*Max 4*
Alternate: Rhythm									*Max 2*

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Question S1

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

This question assessed students' ability to:

- sight read and sing a melody in minor mode;
- sing in simple quadruple meter;
- perform common rhythmic patterns;
- perform a dotted rhythm;
- sing skips and stepwise motion in both ascending and descending directions;
- sing a melody with a vocal range of a seventh;
- perform chordal skips within the tonic triad;
- establish and maintain a steady tempo;
- establish and retain a sense of tonic; and
- read in treble clef.

Sample: S1A
Score: 9

This represents an excellent response. All eight segments are sung with correct pitch and rhythm. The final half note is of sufficient length to be awarded the point for segment eight. One point was awarded for each segment. There are no hesitations or restarts, so the flow point was also awarded. Scoring by segments was: 1111+1111 +1=9.

Sample: S1B
Score: 5

This represents a fair response. Segments one, five, six and eight are sung correctly in both pitch and rhythm. Four points were awarded. Segments two, three, four, and seven contain errors in pitch or rhythm. Because there are no hesitations or restarts, the flow point was awarded. Scoring by segments was: 1000+1101+1=5.

Sample: S1C
Score: 2

This represents a weak response. No segments are sung correctly in both pitch and rhythm. The rhythm is performed accurately throughout, and therefore earned 2 points using the Alternate Scoring Guide for rhythm (II.B.) The flow point is not awarded when using the Alternate Scoring Guide.

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